

# Pharmacological Interventions for Substance Abuse

Missouri Spring Training Institute  
May 29, 2003



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Nick Reuter

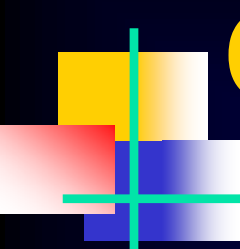
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Center for Substance Abuse Treatment  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health  
Services Administration



# Overview

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- Introduction - CSAT
  - National Trends in Opiate Abuse
  - CSAT Mission/Programs
  - Opioid Tx Innovations
    - Opioid Treatment Program Regulation — the first year
    - Office-Based Treatment
      - legislation
      - medications
  - Next Steps, Challenges
- Center for Substance Abuse Treatment  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration



# Objectives

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- Overview of Opioid Program **and** Office-Based Treatment Oversight System
- Understand Federal Physician Certification System
- Emerging Implementation Issues
- Methadone Associated Mortality



# **Scope of the Public Health Problem**

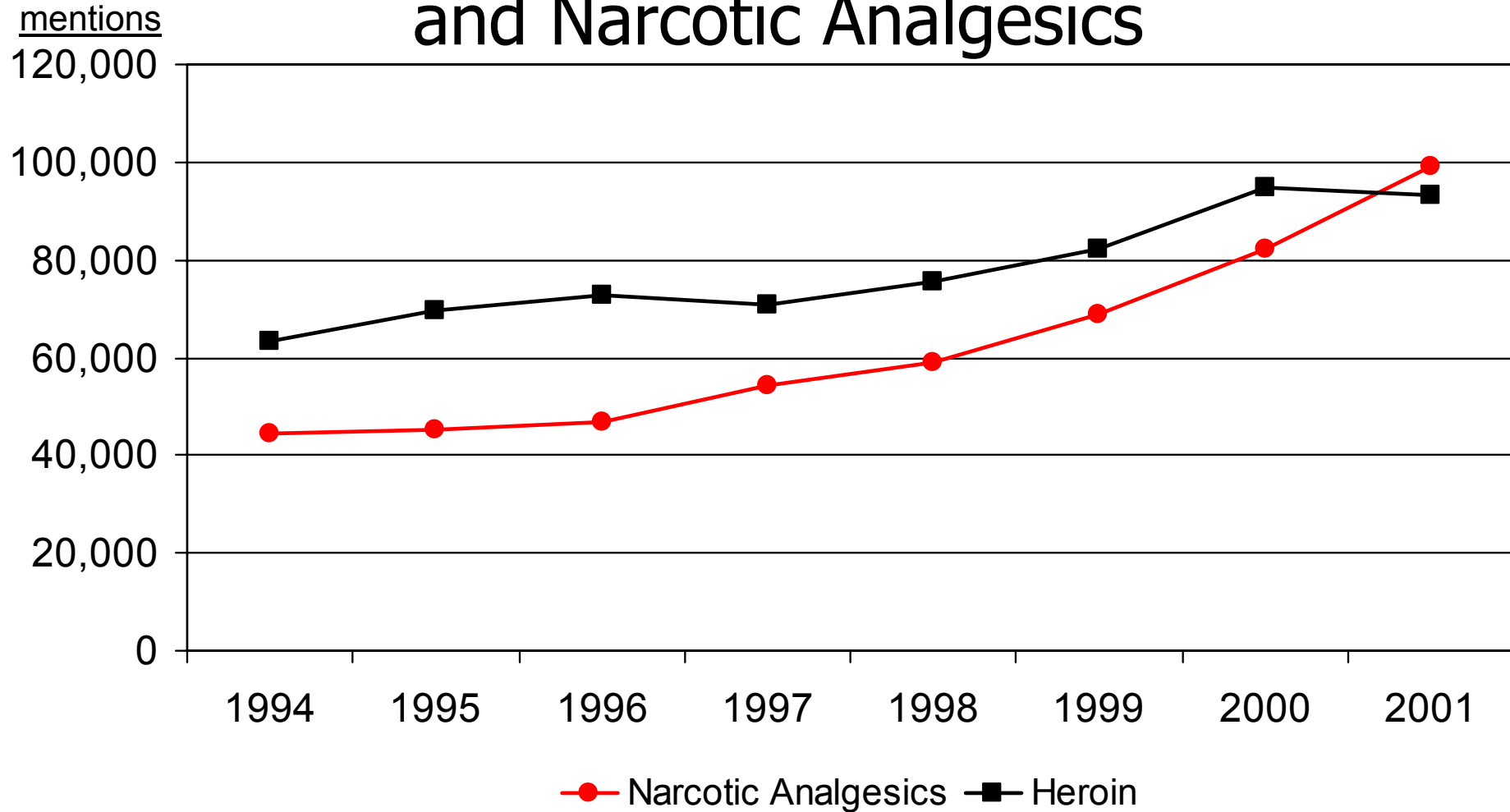
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- **An estimated 2.4 million people have used heroin at some time in their lives  
(NHSDA, 1998)**
- **During 1996 through 1998, an estimated 471,000 persons used heroin for the first time. Of them, 25% were under age 18 and another 47% were age 18 - 25  
(NHSDA, 1999)**

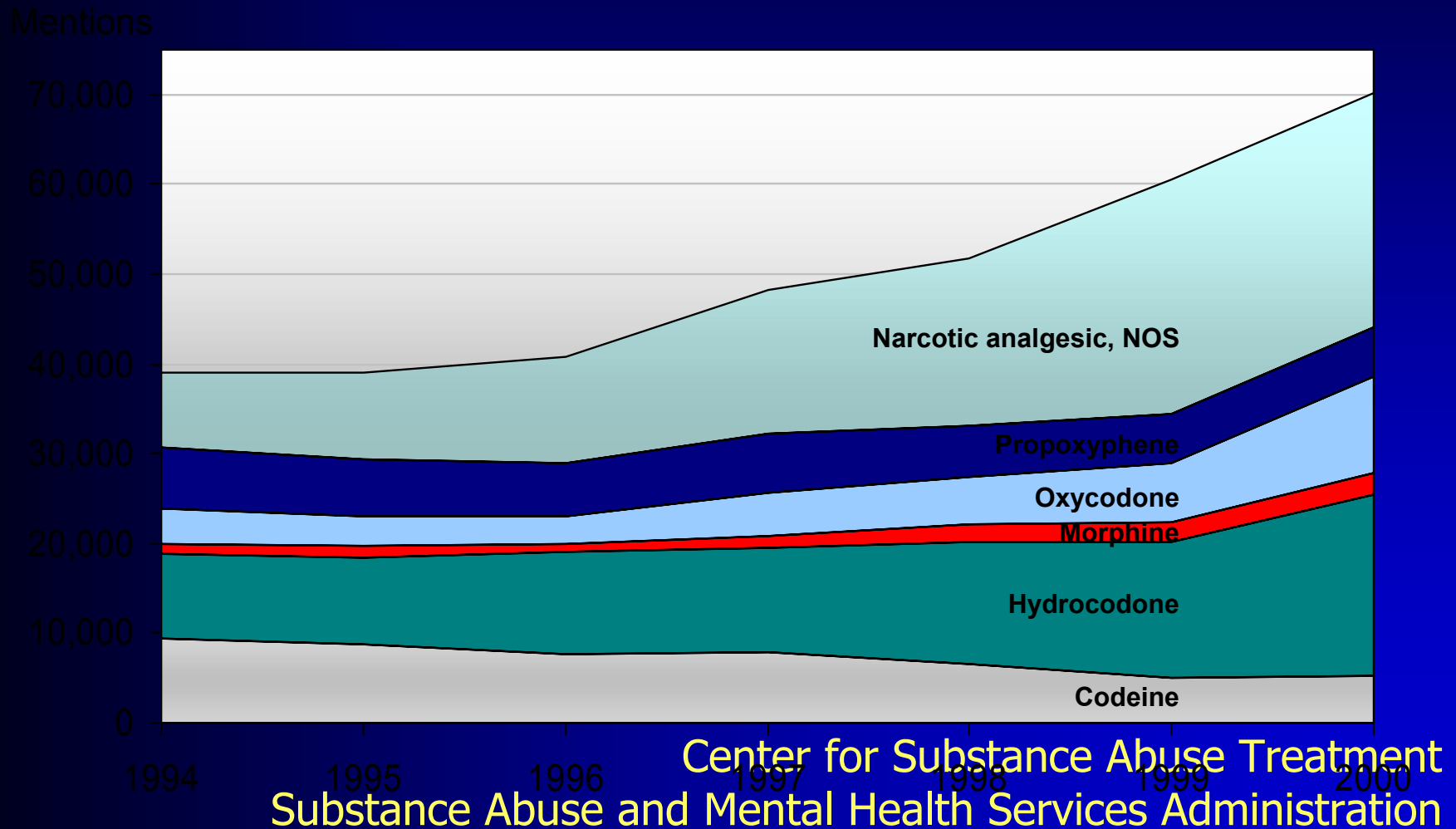
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# DAWN

## ED Mentions of Heroin and Narcotic Analgesics



# ED Mentions of Narcotic Analgesics



Source: Drug Abuse Warning Network



# Narcotic Analgesics, 2000

	<u>ED Mentions</u>	<u>% change from</u>	
		<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>
■ NOS	25,935	+40%	n.s.
■ Hydrocodone	20,098	+48%	+32%
■ Oxycodone	10,825	+108%	+68%
■ Propoxyphene	5,485	n.s.	n.s.
■ Codeine	5,295	-20%	n.s.
■ Morphine	2,483	n.s.	n.s.

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Source: Drug Abuse Warning Network



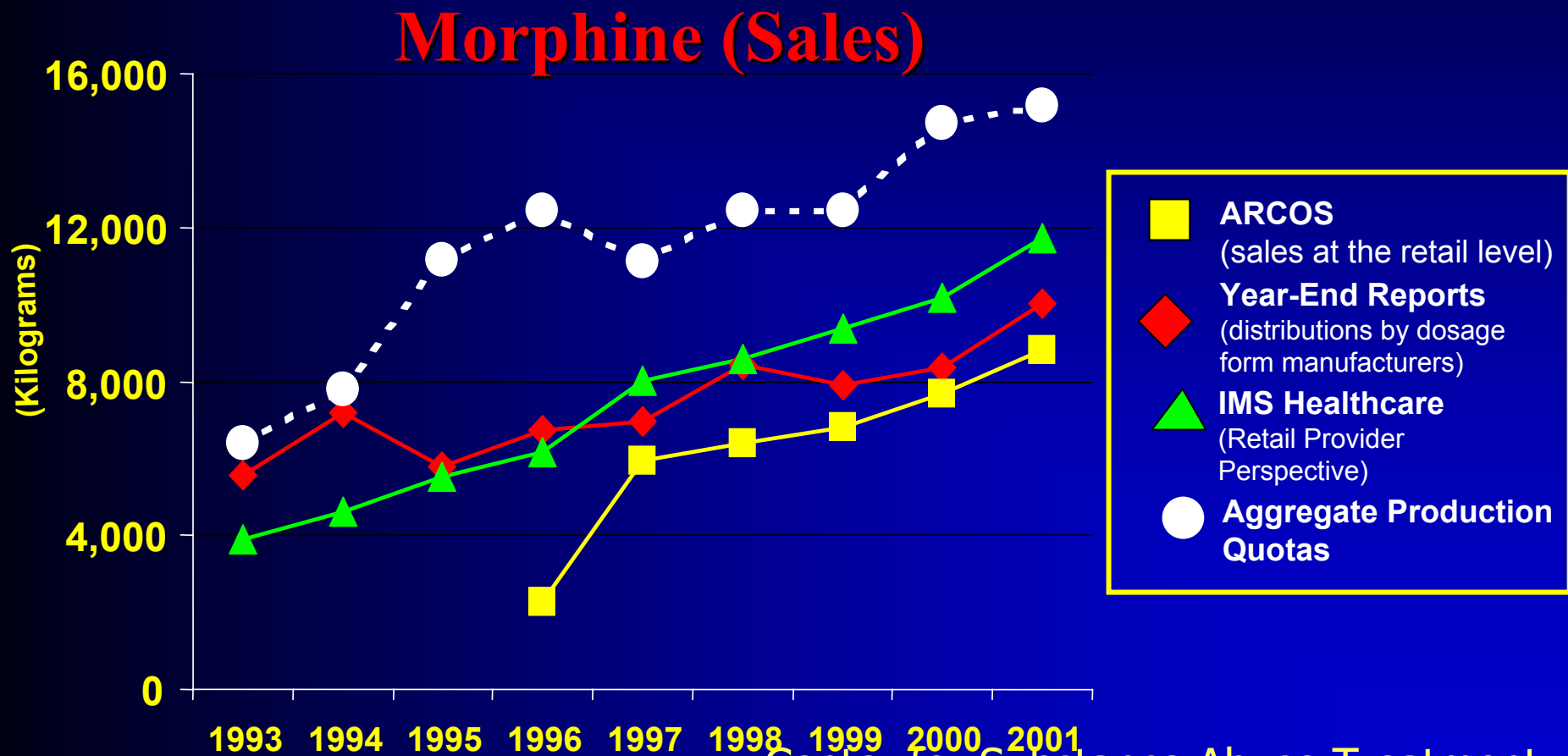
# *SAMHSA's Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN)*

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- Narcotic prescription pain reliever related visits to emergency rooms increased from 1994-2001
  - 352% increase in oxycodone mentions
  - 230% increase in methadone mentions
  - 210% increase in morphine mentions
  - 131% increase in hydrocodone mentions



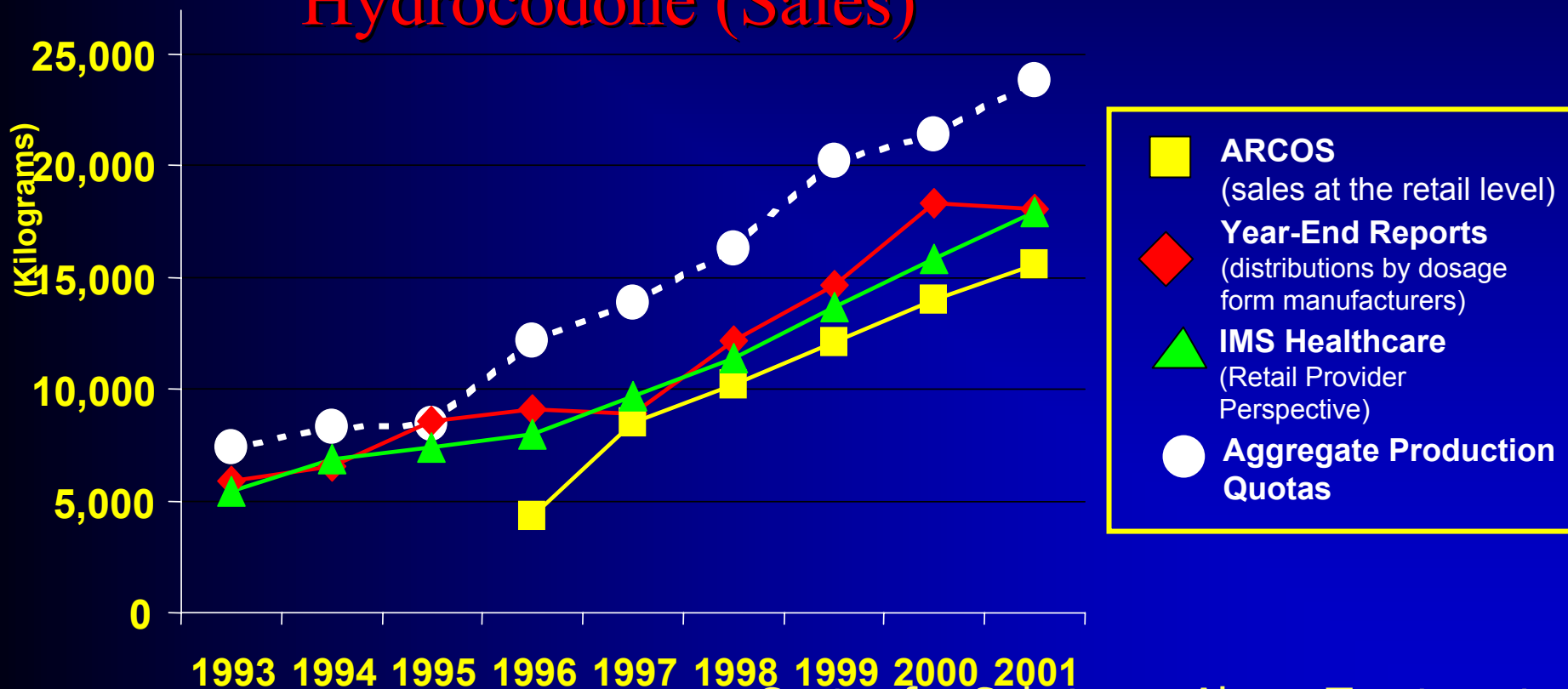
# Estimates of U.S. Consumption



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# Estimates of U.S. Consumption

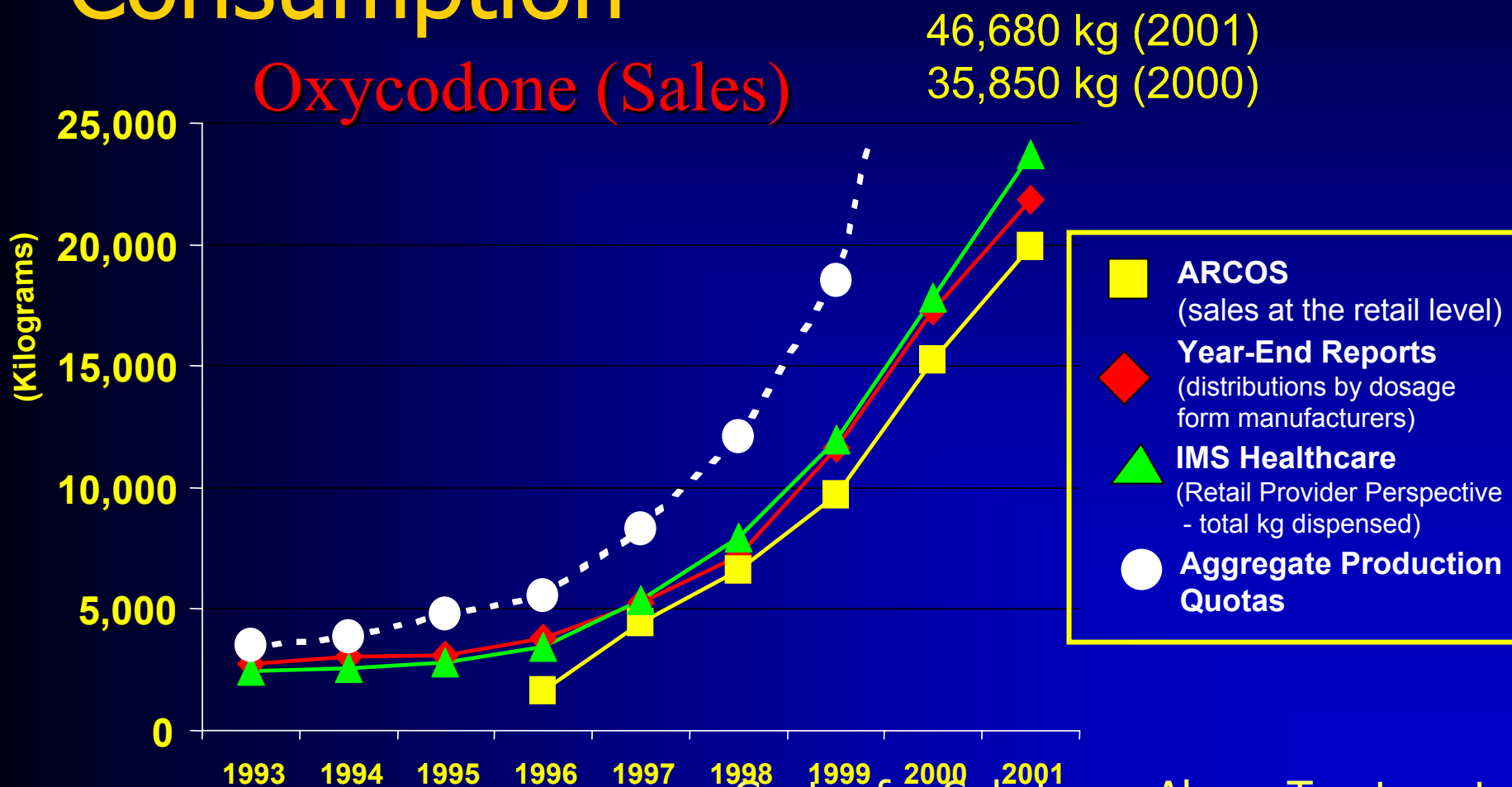
## Hydrocodone (Sales)



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# Estimates of U.S. Consumption

Oxycodone (Sales)



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# What about abuse?

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- According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), in 1999 Four million Americans reported current use of prescription drugs for non-medical purposes
- The most dramatic increases were found among the 12 to 25 year olds
- Oxycontin® and Ritalin® were among the most cited abused medications

# Current Situation *cont.*

## *SAMHSA's Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN)*

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- Between 1998 and 2000 there were more new users among the 12 – 17 year olds than among the 18-25 year olds
- Past year use was 12% in 2001, up from 9% in 2000 for young adults



# SAMSHA/CSAT Mission

The Center for Substance Abuse

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Treatment(CSAT) of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), was created in October 1992 with a congressional mandate to expand the availability of effective treatment and recovery services for alcohol and drug problems.

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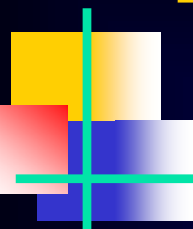


# SAMHSA/CSAT Programs

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- Substance Abuse Prevention Treatment Block Grant
  - \$1.7 billion, nationwide
  - Technical Assistance
- Other Grants
- Treatment Guidelines
- Opioid Treatment Oversight

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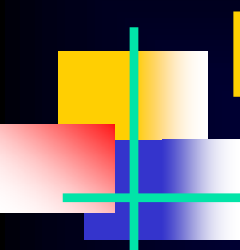
# Type of Substance Abuse Tx

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- Drug Free Residential, TC
- Inpatient
- 12-step, NA, AA,
- Faith based
- Out-patient drug free
- Opioid Assisted Treatment
  - Detoxification
  - Maintenance

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# DATA (Drug Addiction Treatment Act)

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## The Children's Health Act of 2000

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# DATA (Drug Addiction Treatment Act)

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- Permits the prescribing of a schedule III, IV or V opioid treatment drug, approved by FDA for maintenance or detoxification treatment



# DATA (Drug Addiction Treatment Act)

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- Limits Patients

- The total number of patients for a practitioner or group practice will not exceed 30
- Secretary may, by regulation change this number



# DATA (Drug Addiction Treatment Act)

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- Limits medications
  - Schedule III, IV, or V (narcotics)
  - Approved by the FDA for use in maintenance or detoxification treatment
  - Have not been the subject of an adverse determination



# DATA (Drug Addiction Treatment Act)

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- Limits eligible physicians
  - Physician holds a subspecialty board addiction certification
    - ASAM
    - American Board of Medical Specialties
    - American Osteopathic Association



# Premption of State Laws

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- For three years, a State may not preclude a practitioner from dispensing or prescribing narcotic drugs to patients for maintenance or detoxification, unless the State enacts a special law prohibiting the practitioner from prescribing or dispensing. (extended to 10/08/05)

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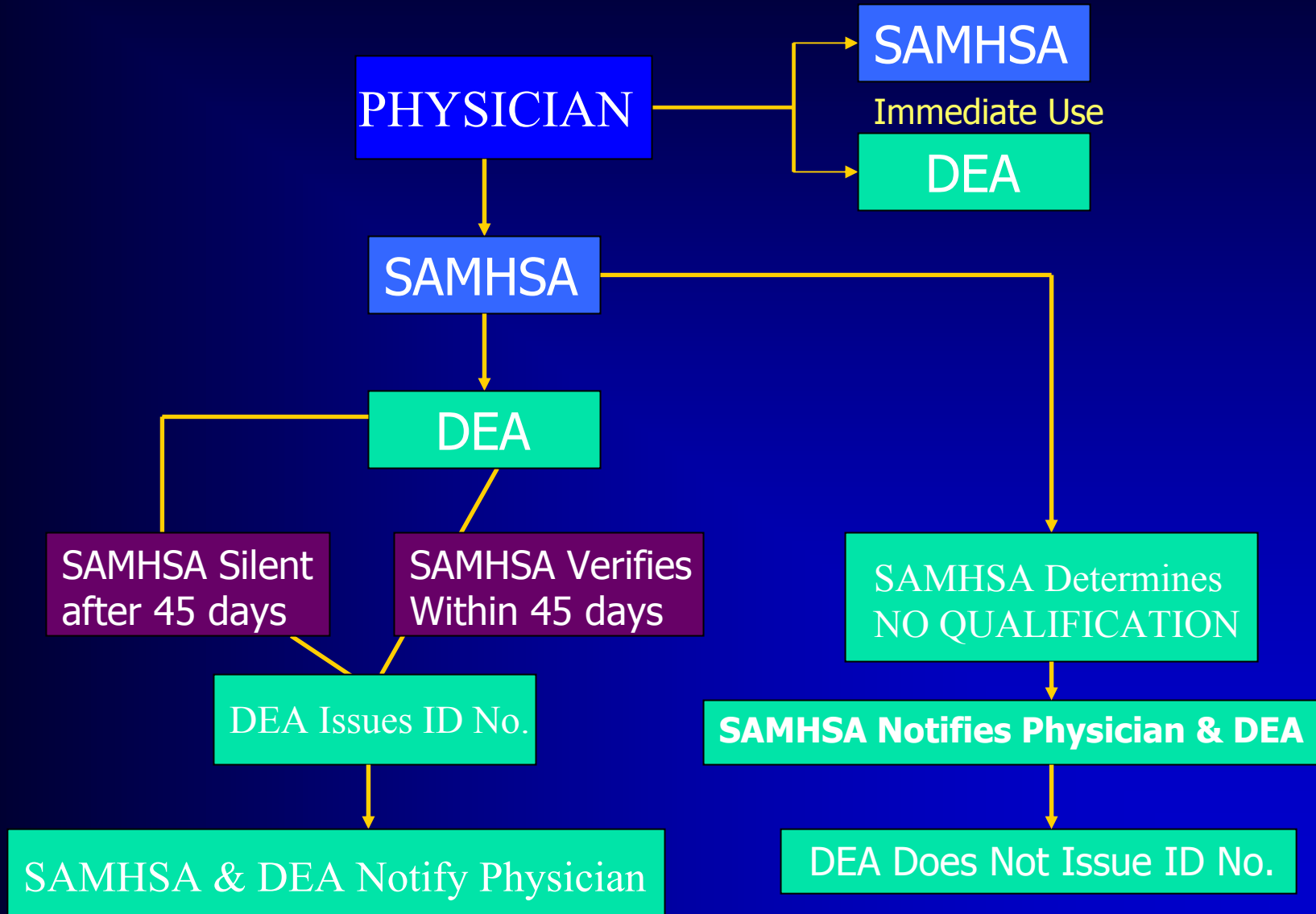


# State Actions

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- NY State emergency regulations
- Register physicians (must renew)
  - Linkage agreement with authorized substance abuse treatment services provider
  - CME – 8 hours every two years
- Report patients they dispense to
- Register Pharmacies

# OFFICE-BASED TREATMENT NOTIFICATION REVIEW







# Notification Submission

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Form to facilitate notifications

- SMA-167
- Notifications may be submitted:
  - By mail
  - By fax
  - Online



# Address to Submit Notification of Intent

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Substance Abuse and Mental Health  
Services Administration  
Center for Substance Abuse Treatment  
Division of Pharmacologic Therapies  
Attn: Opioid Treatment Waiver  
Program  
5600 Fishers Lane, Rm. 12-105  
Rockville, MD 2085  
Fax: (301) 443-3994

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## Collected



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- Name, address, telephone, fax, email,
- Medical license, DEA registration
- Group practice status
- Credentialing and/or training
- Certifications
  - Patient max
  - Medications used
  - Capacity to refer



# Notification Verification

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- Signed
- Confirm Certifications
  - 30 patients
  - FDA Approved, CSA III Medications
  - Capacity to refer
- Confirm active license to practice medicine
  - Some cases direct contact w/Medical Boards
- Confirm credentialing, or
- Confirm 8-hour training
- Verify from DEA, registration status
  - Authorized to prescribe schedule III narcotics

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# Buprenorphine Waiver Status

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- 1600 Notifications Submitted
- Most physicians indicate training
- Most physicians agree to listing on S-Treatment Facility Locator
- 1400 Waivers Approved.



# ASAM Buprenorphine Trainings - Demographics

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Years since graduating medical school 23.5 (1-68)

## Specialty

183 (31%) Psychiatry

150 (28%) Addiction Medicine

133 (23%) Internal Medicine

106 (18%) Family Practice

15 (3%) Addiction Psychiatry

## Certification

214 (36%) ASAM

25 (4%) ABPN

30 (5%) ASAM/ABPN

4 (< 1%) ASAM/AOAAM

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# ASAM Buprenorphine Trainings – Clinical

## Experience

Experience treating opioid dependent patients

28 (5%) No experience

55 (10%) Detoxification only

235 (41%) Methadone maintenance

36 (6%) Medical or psychiatric comorbid conditions, not addiction

80 (14%) Abstinence based treatment

100 (24%) Other

Length of time treating opioid dependent patients

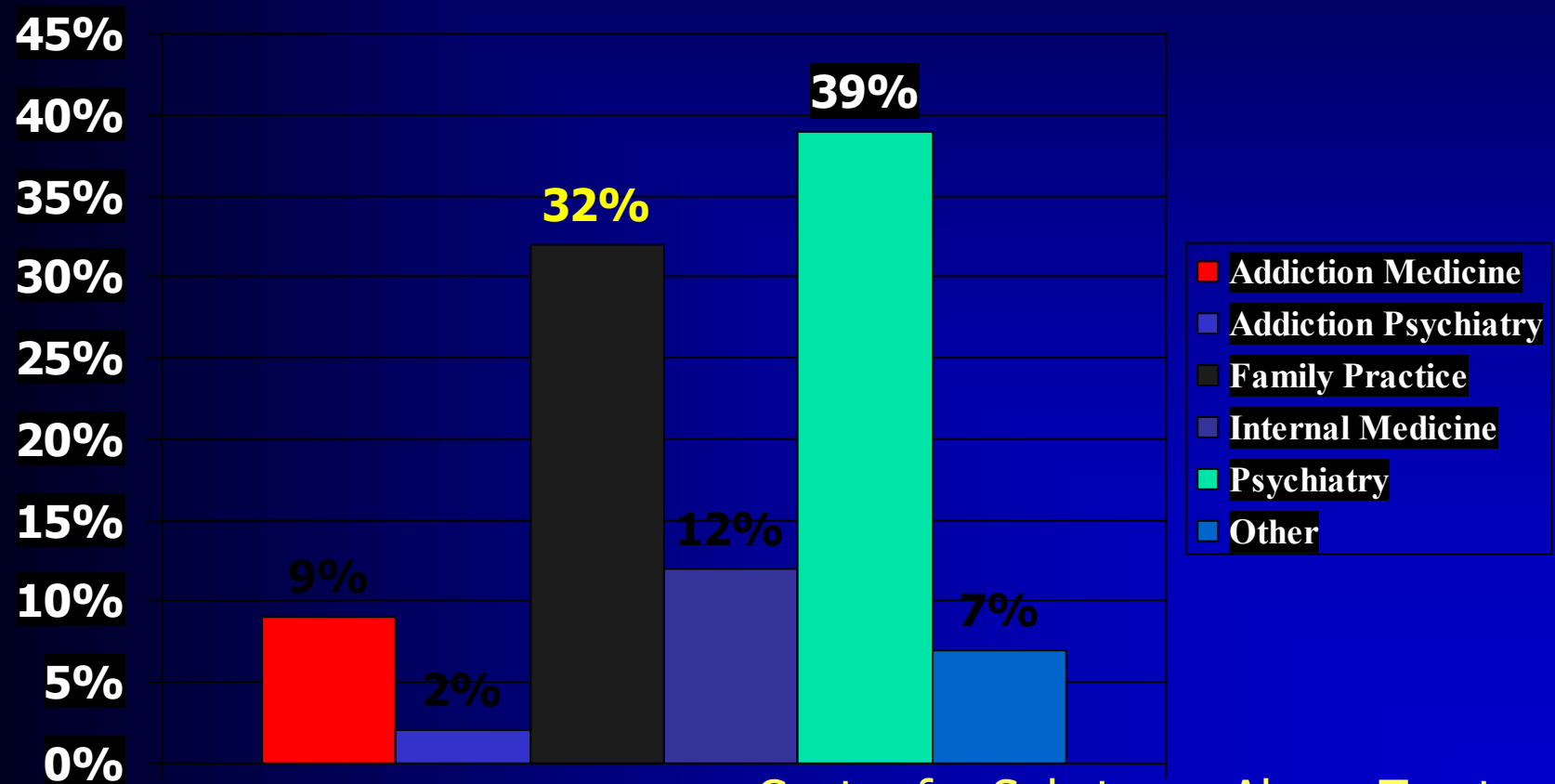
34 (7%) Less than one year

72 (13%) One to three years

436 (80%) Greater than three years

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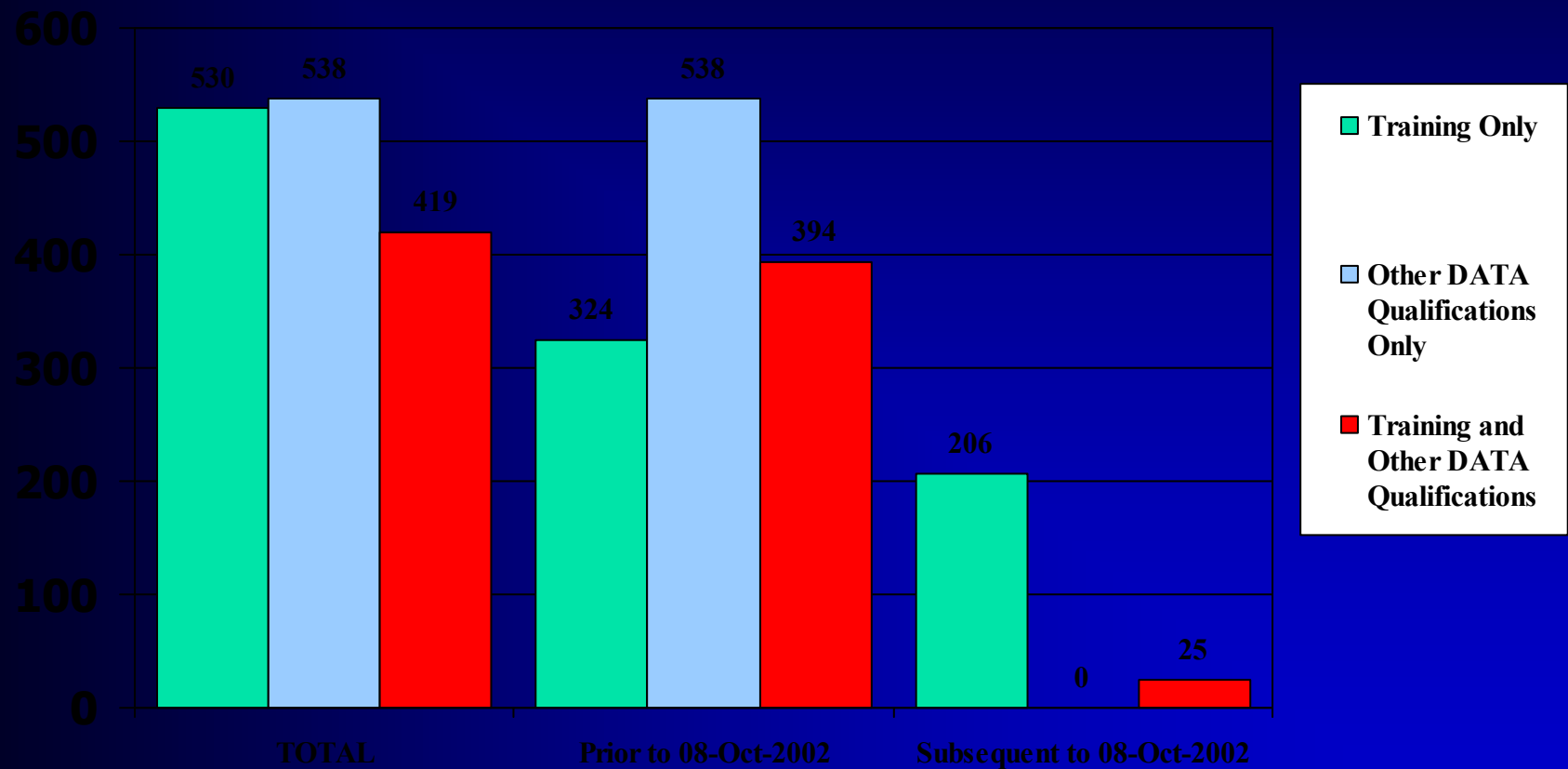
# Reported Primary Specialties of Physician Trainees (N= 394)



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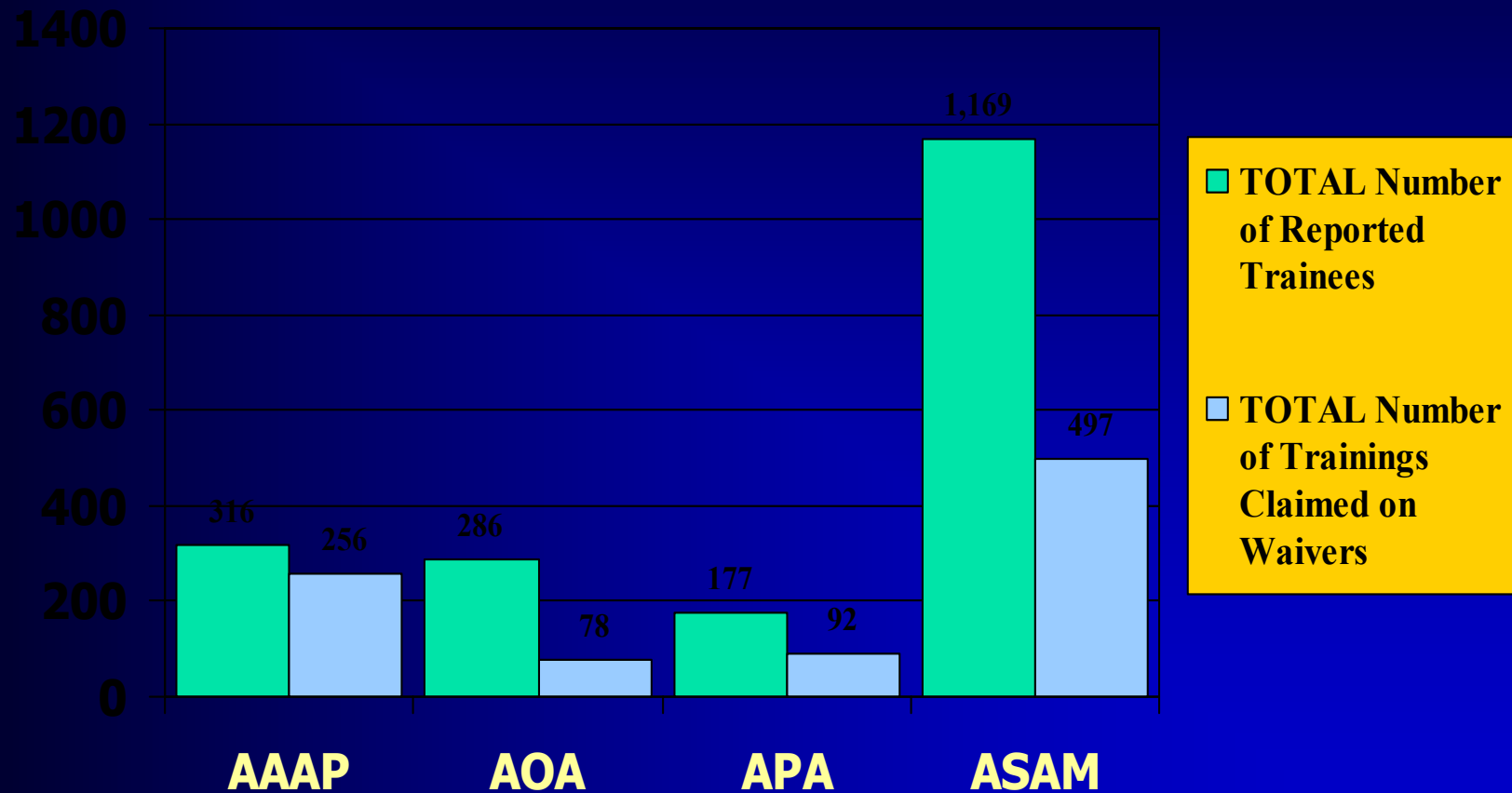


# Submitting Waiver Notifications by Time Period



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# Trainees Reported vs Trainings Claimed by Training Group



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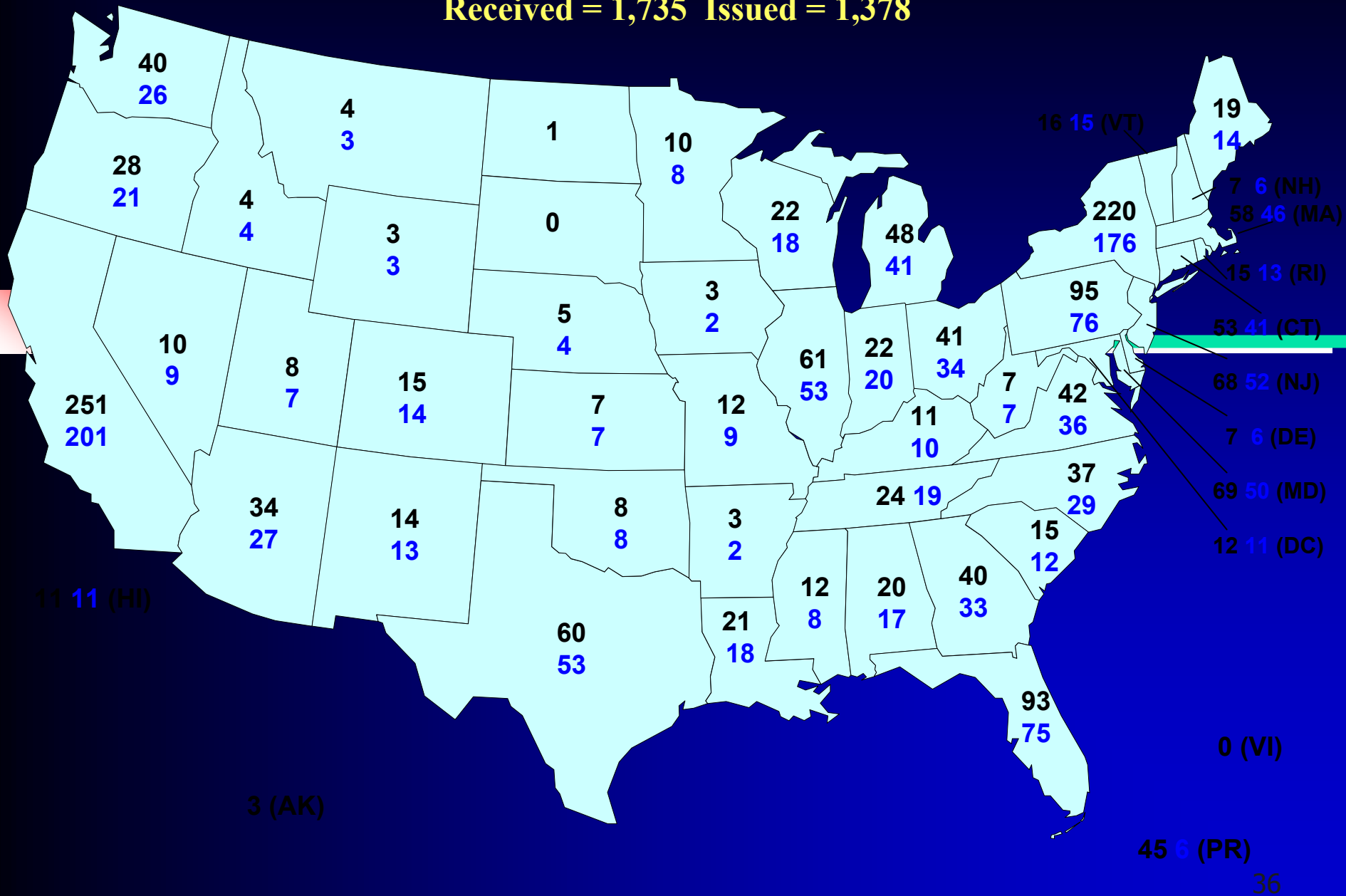
# Online Trainings

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- 82 reported online trainees
- Reported Trainings
  - 4.3% of total trainees
  - 81 persons (1 completed 2 online trainings)
  - Available only through APA and AAAP currently

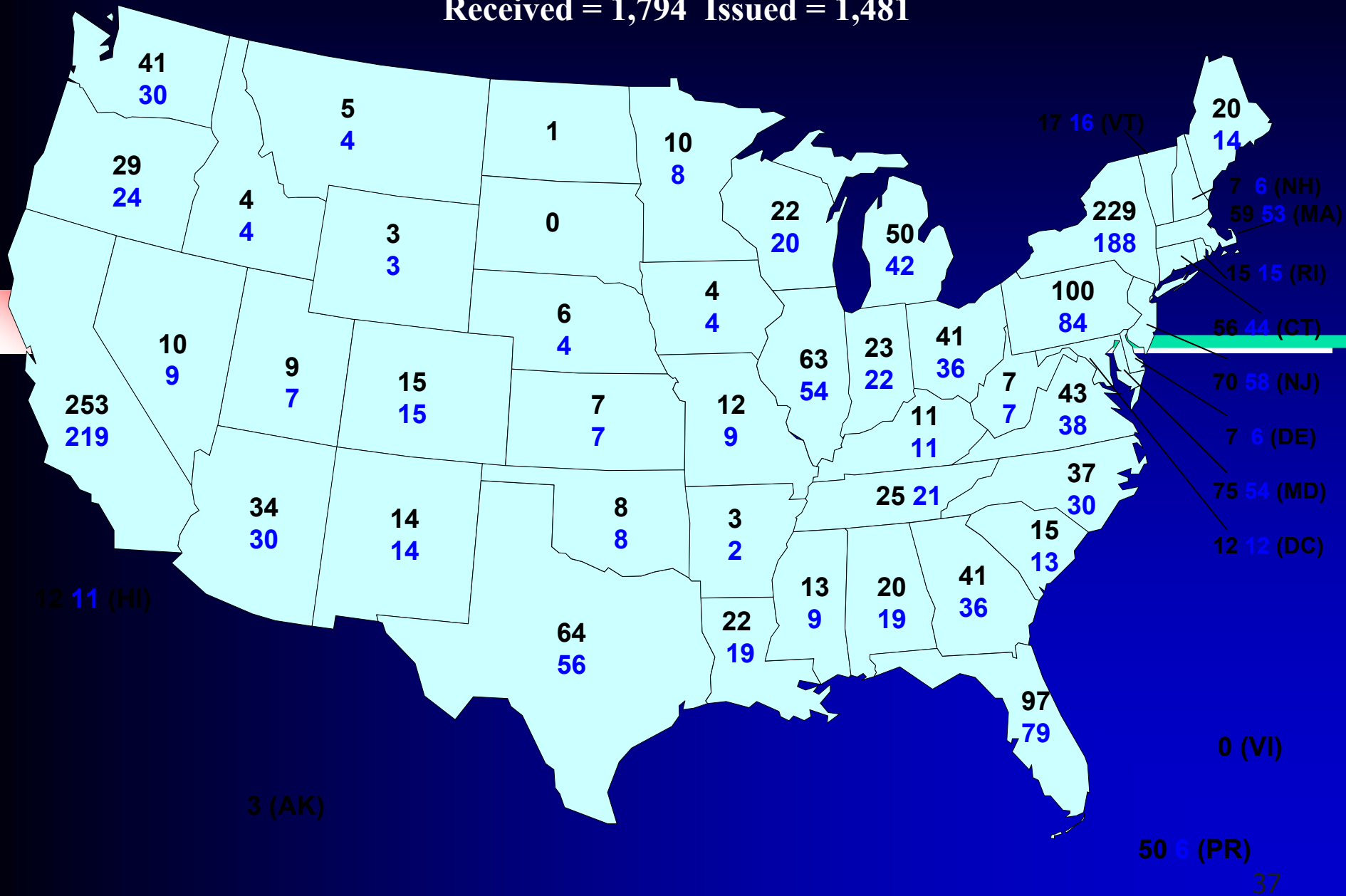
# Waiver Notifications by State as of May 2, 2003

Received = 1,735 Issued = 1,378

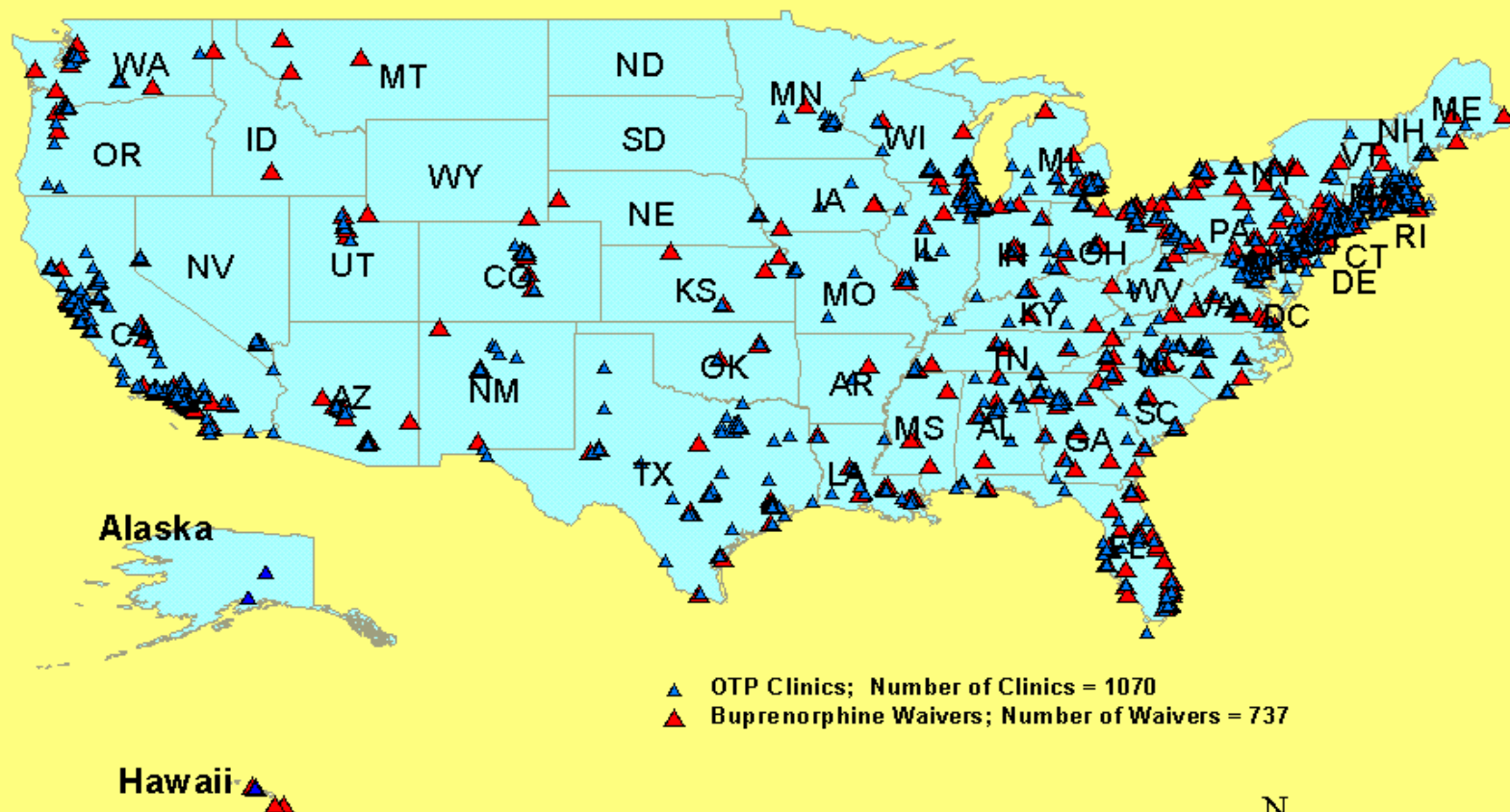


# Waiver Notifications by State as of May 23, 2003

Received = 1,794 Issued = 1,481



# OTP Clinics and Buprenorphine Waivers



# Subutex®

- Schedule III under the Controlled Substances Act
- Oval white tablet for sublingual administration
- Two dosage strengths
  - 2 mg buprenorphine
  - 8 mg buprenorphine

Drug Label for NDA 20-732 and NDA 20-733

# Suboxone®

- Schedule III under the Controlled Substances Act
- Hexagonal orange tablet for sublingual administration
- Two dosage strengths
  - 2 mg buprenorphine with 0.5 mg naloxone
  - 8 mg buprenorphine with 2 mg naloxone

Drug Label for NDA 20-732 and NDA 20-733



**SUBOXONE®**



**SUBUTEX®**

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# Buprenorphine: A Partial Agonist

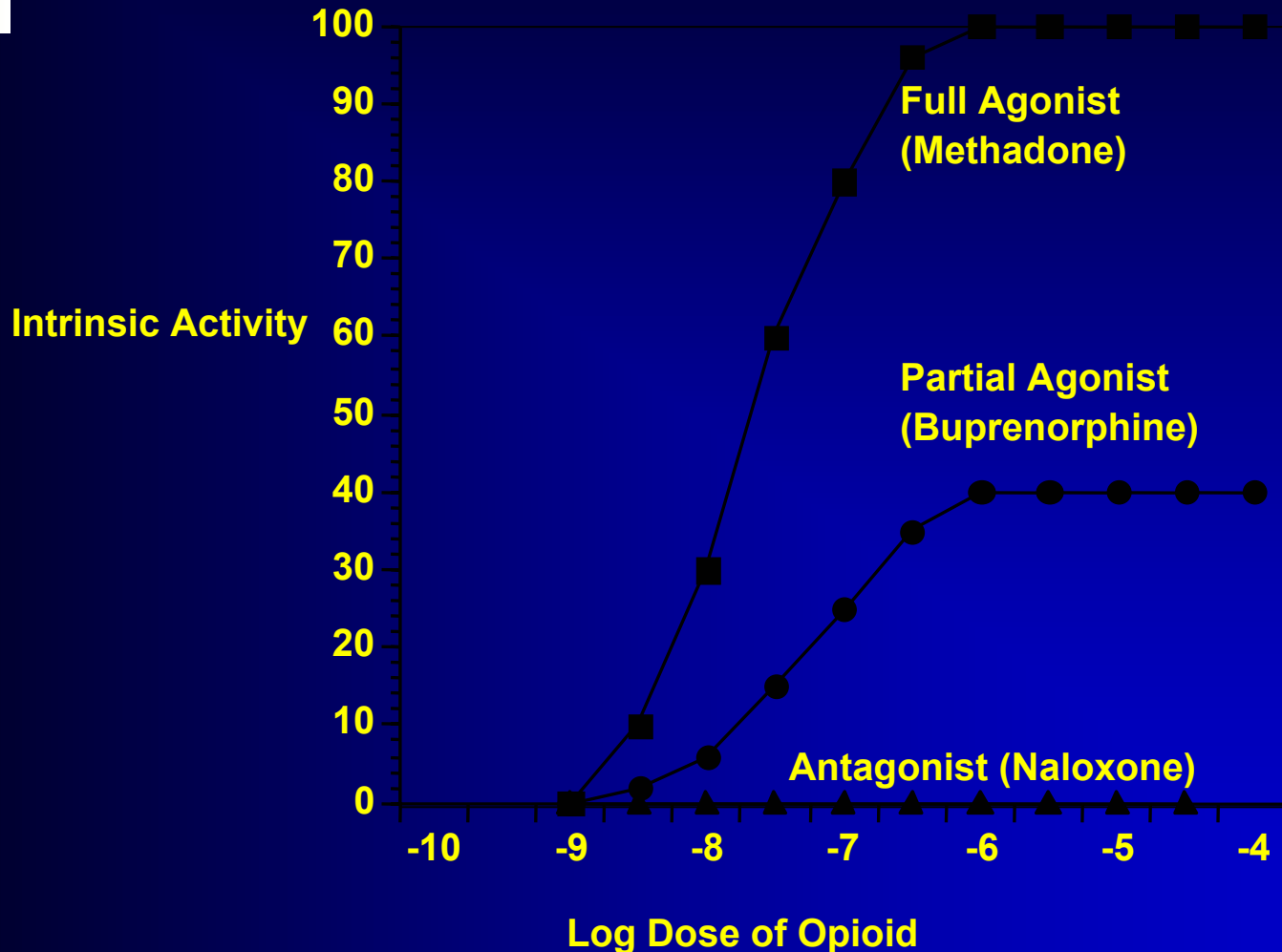
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## Partial agonists:

Bind to and activate receptor

Increasing dose does not produce  
as great an effect as does  
increasing the dose of a full  
agonist (less of a maximal effect  
is possible)

# Intrinsic Activity: Full Agonist (Methadone), Partial Agonist (Buprenorphine), Antagonist (Naloxone)



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# Affinity and Dissociation

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Buprenorphine has:

- high affinity for mu opioid receptor –  
competes with other opioids and  
blocks their effects

- slow dissociation from mu opioid receptor

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- prolonged therapeutic effect for  
opioid dependence treatment

Good parenteral bioavailability

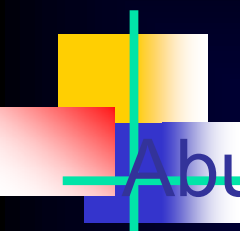
Poor oral bioavailability

Fair sublingual bioavailability

For opioid dependence treatment:

early clinical trials used an alcohol-based solution

FDA approval for tablets that are held under tongue



## Abuse Potential

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Buprenorphine is abusable  
(epidemiological, human  
laboratory studies show)

Diversion and illicit use of  
analgesic form (by injection)

Relatively low abuse potential  
compared to other opioids

## Non-dependent opioid user

Single doses of buprenorphine  
produce typical mu agonist effects  
shown when given by injection  
and sublingual route

Onset of effects slower for  
sublingual route (suggesting lower  
abuse potential)

### Physically dependent opioid user

Abuse potential of buprenorphine varies as function of three factors:

1. Level of physical dependence
2. time interval between last dose of agonist and first dose of administered buprenorphine
3. dose of buprenorphine





## Potential for Physical Dependence

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Repeated administration of buprenorphine produces or maintains physical dependence

However, degree of physical dependence is less than that produced by full agonist opioids

This means withdrawal syndrome should be less severe for buprenorphine



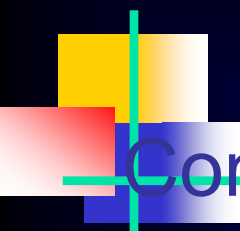
## Sublingual Naloxone

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Sublingual naloxone has relatively poor bioavailability

Dose up to 1-2 mg sublingual do not precipitate withdrawal in opioid dependent volunteers

Sublingual naloxone does have a bitter taste



## ~~Combination of Buprenorphine plus Naloxone~~

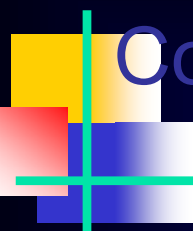
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Sublingual buprenorphine has fair bioavailability

Addition of naloxone to buprenorphine to decrease abuse potential of tablets

Combination ratio is 4 to 1  
(buprenorphine to naloxone)

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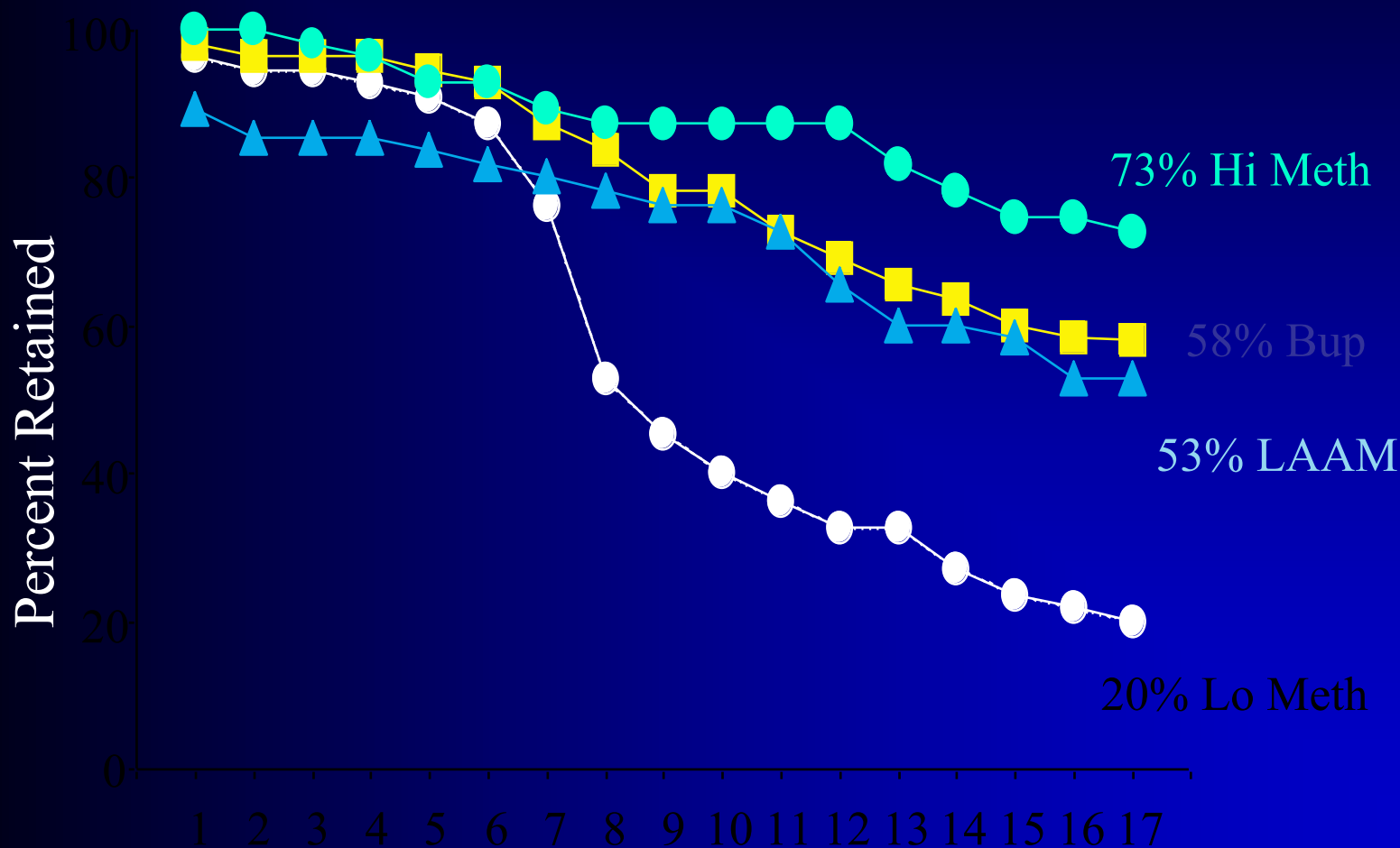
# Combination of Buprenorphine plus Naloxone

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Combination tablet containing buprenorphine with naloxone – if taken under tongue, predominant buprenorphine effect

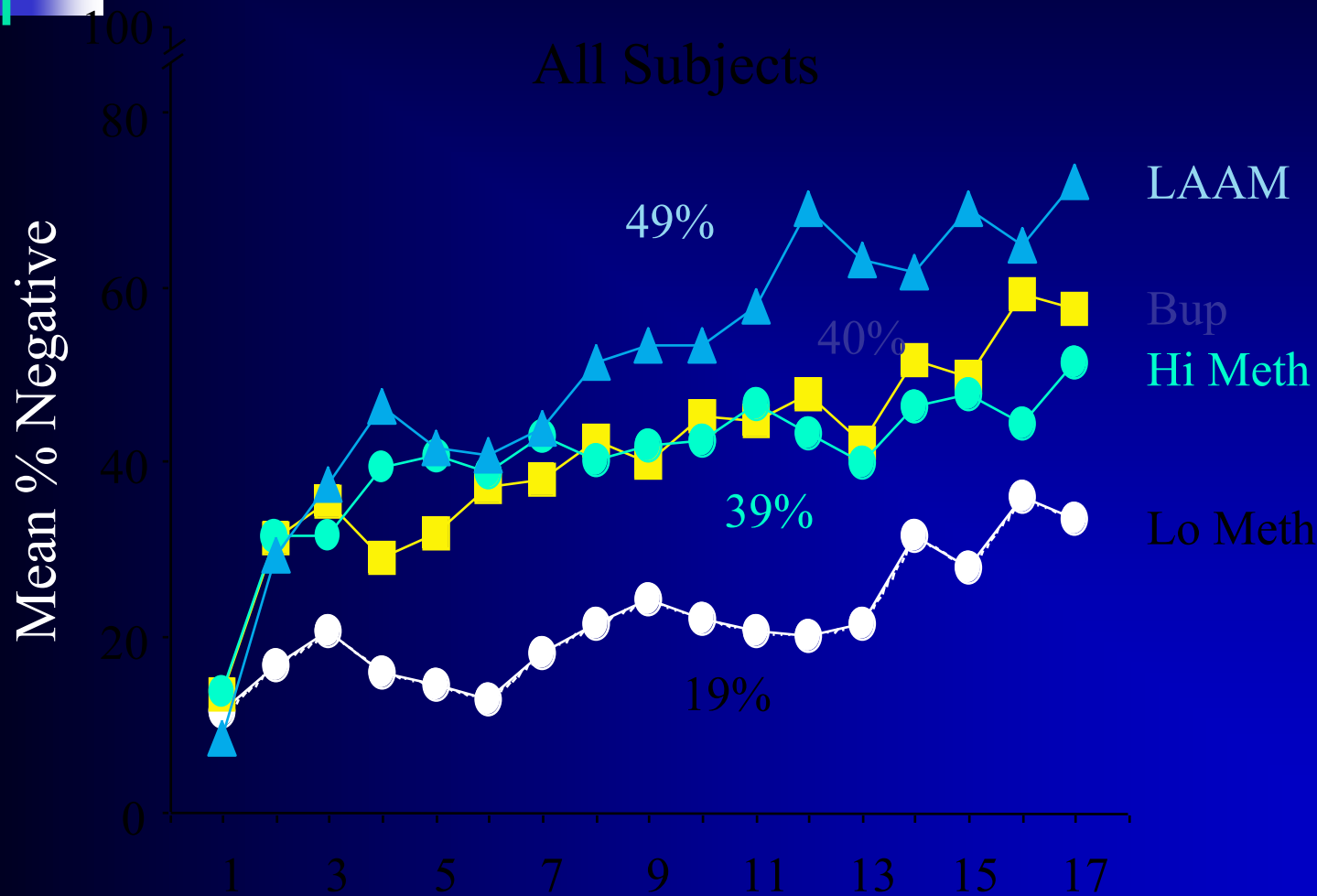
If opioid dependent person dissolves and injects buprenorphine/naloxone tablet – predominant naloxone effect (and precipitated withdrawal)

# Buprenorphine, Methadone, LAAM: Treatment Retention



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Adapted from Johnson, et al., 2000

# Buprenorphine, Methadone, LAAM: Opioid Urine Results





# Buprenorphine Induction

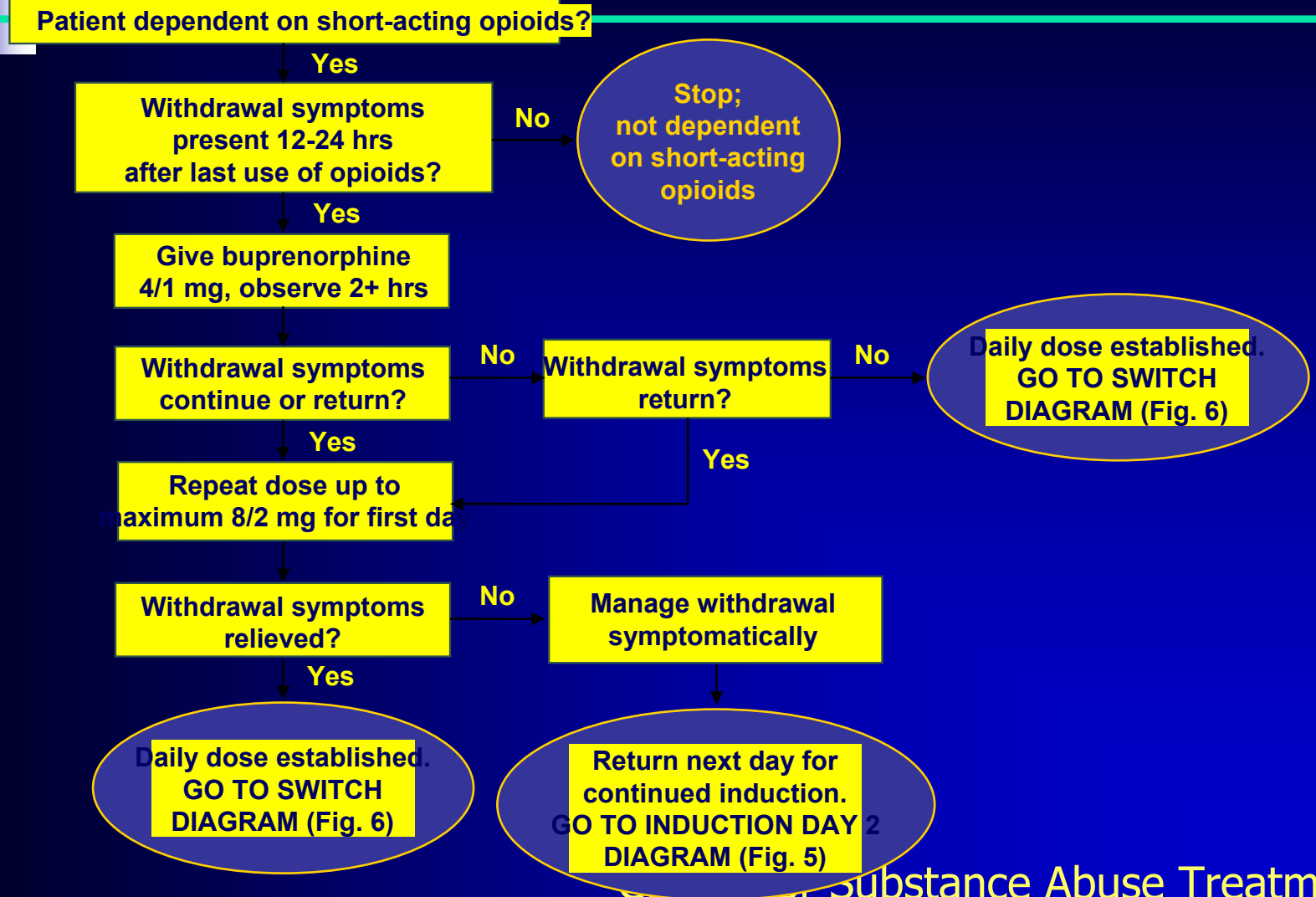
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## Patients dependent on short-acting opioids

Instruct patient to abstain from any opioid use for 12-24 hours (so they are in mild withdrawal at time of first buprenorphine dose)

If patient is not in opioid withdrawal at time of arrival in office, then assess time of last use and consider either having him/her return another day or wait in the office until evidence of withdrawal seen

# Figure 3: Induction for Patient Physically Dependent On Short-acting Opioids, Day 1





# Buprenorphine Treatment Strategies



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- Patients should be given the initial doses of BNP under supervision (~10-12mg/day)
  - Provider may choose to keep stock
    - May use routine supplier
    - May use Sponsor's supply (depending on state)
    - May Use Sponsor's help in
  - Keep medication in secure environment
    - Must have log book or record of disposition of all doses



# Buprenorphine Warnings: Respiratory Depression

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- Significant respiratory depression, particularly by the IV route of administration
- A number of deaths have occurred when addicts use IV, usually with benzodiazepines
- Deaths have occurred with co-use of alcohol, opioids or other depressants

Drug Label for NDA 20-732  
and NDA 20-733

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# FDA Approval

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- Info for Pharmacists
- Interactions (benzodiazepines)
- Multiple prescriptions
- Verification of Rx, Waiver
- Confidentiality



# Pharmacists Verifying Waiver Status

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- Online Physician Locator  
[www.buprenorphine.samhsa.gov](http://www.buprenorphine.samhsa.gov)
- Lists made available to State regulatory and law enforcement agencies
- Phone directly to SAMHSA/CSAT
  - 301-443-0457
  - Info On Distribution  
866-282-2107

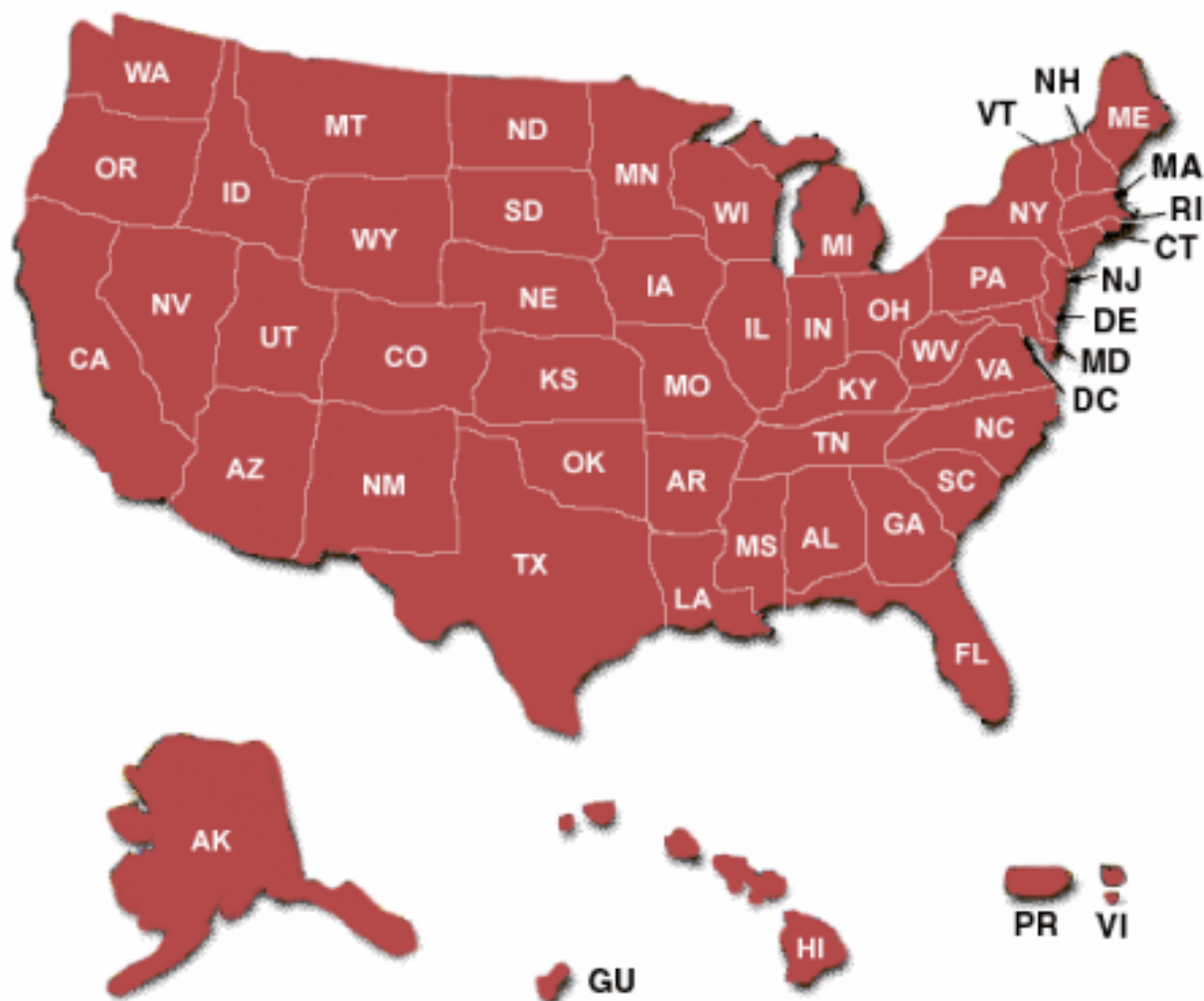
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# Buprenorphine

## PHYSICIAN LOCATOR

[home](#)[about the physician  
locator](#)[physician list search](#)[state substance  
abuse agencies](#)[frequently asked  
questions](#)[links](#)[comments or questions](#)[treatment facility  
locator](#)

To locate the physician(s) authorized to prescribe Buprenorphine nearest you, find your **State** on the map below and click on it.





# Questions from Pharmacists

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- Use in in-patient detoxification
  - Permitted
- Buprenex?
- Detoxification/maintenance protocols
- Multi-registered physicians
- Nurse Practitioners/Physicians Assistants.



# Oversight - Federal

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- Waiver review/approval system
- DEA periodic inspections
- State Medical Boards – some revocations
  - FSMB Guidelines ([www.fsmb.org](http://www.fsmb.org))
    - Treatment plans
    - Documentation



# Board Feedback on Draft Guidelines

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## 2) Concerns about 42CFR2 (Federal Confidentiality Regulations):

- Does this really apply to physicians? (YES)
- Does this prevent the Board from examining addiction treatment records or using them to prosecute physicians? (NO, but it does prevent you from using them to prosecute patients)

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# (Fed Confidentiality) 1

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- The term "program" means any person or organization that is federally assisted, and in whole or part, providing alcohol or drug abuse diagnosis, referral for treatment or treatment



# 42CFR2 (Fed Confidentiality) 2

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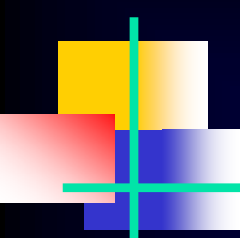
- **The term "Federal assistance" means receives Federal funds in any form, even when the funds do not pay for alcohol or drug treatment services**
  - **Federally authorized to conduct business, such as licensed to provide methadone under NATA or w/Federal waiver for Schedule III-IV under DATA**
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# Medical Board Still Has Authority



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- **Disclosure Exception under 42CFR 2 for Audit and Evaluation:**
  - **Government agencies, peer review, insurance companies and others who regulate and fund treatment programs may have access to treatment records in order to conduct audit/evaluation**
  - **Access granted without patient consent**
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# Redisclosure is Limited, Patient is Still Protected Under 42CFR2

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- May only redisclose pt identifying info:
  - 1. back to the program
  - 2. in response to a court order investigating the program (not the patient)
  - 3. To government agencies overseeing Medicare or Medicaid investigations
- All patient identifying information is to be destroyed after the audit and evaluation is completed



# Redisdisclosure (cont.)

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- **Redisdisclosure without consent is limited exclusively to goal of the audit and evaluation**
- **To copy or remove records, investigators must certify that they will abide by 42CFR2**



# Uncertainties

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- Drug availability – with distributors and in pharmacies
- Drug Cost – wholesale ~ \$1/mg
- How will medication be distributed?
  - Demand driven
- How many physicians?
- How many patients?
  - Treated by physicians?
  - Treated in Opioid Treatment Program

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# Off-Label Use

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- Not prohibited
- Not promoted for analgesia
- Addiction treatment dose greater
- Cost?
- Combination w/naloxone
- Pharmacists should verify all Rx w/out unique ID



# Immediate use?

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- Wait 45 days, or Rx/dispense immediately if:
- If facilitates treatment of an individual patient, and
- CSAT and DEA are notified.
- 25% of physicians indicate immediate use.





# Post Approval Monitoring

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- Post-Marketing surveillance - comprehensive risk management program designed to deter abuse and diversion from its legitimate use in patients and physicians regarding proper use of these drugs,  
**Close monitoring** of drug distribution channels, and child resistant packaging.  
**Active Surveillance** - Ethnographer Interviews, media surveillance, treatment programs, reporting, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment  
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# CSAT Determination

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- Legislative
- Impact of waiver system on
  - Access to treatment
  - Public health consequences
- Includes Physician and other surveys
- Determine need for additional standards



# Buprenorphine vs. Methadone

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## ■ Buprenorphine-Waivers

- Prescribing
- Federal law preempts state from precluding OBOT
- Physician has capacity to refer for services
- State Medical Board Licensing and Guidelines

## ■ Methadone/LAAM/Buprenorphine-OTPs

- No prescribing
- Federal law does not preempt state
- Services must be provided directly or via formal documented agreement
- Accreditation required

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# Summary/Conclusions

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- Opiate Dependence/addiction Significant Public Health Problem
- Opioid Treatment – Significant changes
  - Federal regulations, accreditation
  - Buprenorphine, new legislation
- Both modalities essential
- Training and education imperative so new modalities are introduced w/minimal risks.

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